PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q64212

Yoshihide KINBARA

Appln. No.: 09/849,886

Group Art Unit: 1762

Confirmation No.: 9968

Examiner: Marianne L. PADGETT

Filed: May 04, 2001

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DISCHARGE PROCESSING

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

MAR 07 2003 TC 1700

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 7, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 10 and 22 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Amended) A discharge processing method, wherein an insulating processing medium having a viscosity is interposed between an electrode and a processing subject and discharging energy is supplied between the electrode and the processing subject so that the processing subject is processed by the discharge, comprising the steps of:

pressing the electrode against the processing subject at a predetermined pressure so as to